

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 215494

65

ORIGIN ITFE-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 DHA-02 EA-07 ORM-01 AID-05

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 /085 R

DRAFTED BY IATF:JBROH-KAHN:DJB

APPROVED BY M:LEAGLEBURGER

D/HA:JMWILSON (DRAFT)

EA:RHMILLER (DRAFT)

EUR/WE:SSTEINER(DRAFT)

IATF:RVKEELEY (DRAFT)

C - MR. SONNENFELD

S/S:FORTIZ

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

INFO CAMP PENDLETON PRIORITY

FORT CHAFFEE PRIORITY

INDIANTOWN GAP MR PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 215494

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF,GW

SUBJECT: APPROACH TO FRG ON ADMITTING INDOCHINESE REFUGEES

REF: (A) STATE 197654 (B) BONN 13867 (C) BONN 13577

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM EAGLEBURGER

INFO ADDRESSEES FOR SENIOR CIVIL COORDINATOR

1. TO EMPHASIZE HIGH LEVEL U.S. CONCERN OVER GERMAN
RELUCTANCE TO RESETTLE INDOCHINESE REFUGEES FROM ABROAD,
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PAGE 02 STATE 215494

YOU SHOULD CALL ON FONMIN OR OTHER OFFICIAL AT HIGHEST
LEVEL AVAILABLE TO URGE THAT FRG BEGIN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE
TO MAKE SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO RESOLVE THIS INTER-
NATIONAL PROBLEM. YOU SHOULD URGE FRG NOT ONLY TO ACCEPT

OVER 100 REFUGEES IN U.S. SYSTEM WHO APPLIED TO GO THERE SEVERAL MONTHS AGO BUT ALSO TO ADMIT SEVERAL THOUSAND EITHER FROM U.S. OR FROM THOUSANDS STILL STRANDED, LIVING - UNDER DEPLORABLE CONDITIONS, IN EAST ASIAN COUNTRIES WHERE THEY CANNOT BE RESETTLED. YOU SHOULD ADD THAT WE UNDERSTAND GERMANS HAVE ALLOWED ABOUT 1,800 INDOCHINESE PREVIOUSLY IN FRG TO REMAIN THERE BUT HAVE ADMITTED ALMOST NONE FROM ABROAD: A RECORD WE HOPE THEY WILL IMPROVE UPON SHORTLY. YOU SHOULD ALSO NOTE THAT WE ARE NOW MAKING SIMILAR HIGH LEVEL DEMARCHES TO OTHER COUNTRIES TO ACCEPT MORE INDOCHINESE REFUGEES, INCLUDING CANADA AND FRANCE. LATTER TWO COUNTRIES HAVE EACH ALREADY ACCEPTED OVER 5,000 FROM ABROAD AS WELL AS THOUSANDS PREVIOUSLY IN EACH COUNTRY.

2. EMB MAY USE FOLLOWING BACKGROUND INFORMATION IN DISCUSSIONS WITH FRG: WE HAVE NOT EXPERIENCED AS MUCH SUCCESS AS WE HAD ANTICIPATED IN PERSUADING THIRD COUNTRIES TO ACCEPT CAMBODIAN AND VIETNAMESE REFUGEES FOR PERMANENT RESETTLEMENT. WE HAVE INFORMED CONGRESS THAT WE EXPECTED TO EVACUATE AS MANY AS 150,000 TO THE U.S. BUT PLANNED TO RESETTLE ONLY ABOUT 130,000 HERE ON A PERMANENT BASIS. WE EXPECTED OTHER COUNTRIES TO TAKE ABOUT 20,000 OUT OF THE U.S. SYSTEM. ACCORDING TO OUR FIGURES, HOWEVER, THIRD COUNTRIES TO DATE HAVE ACCEPTED ONLY ABOUT 6,000 REFUGEES, OF WHOM GERMANY HAS TAKEN LESS THAN 10 RPT 10. AS THESE 6,000 REFUGEES MOVE OUT OF THE U.S., WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO MOVE IN OTHERS PREVIOUSLY STRANDED ABROAD, MOSTLY IN EAST ASIA, WHERE THEY ARE UNABLE TO BE PERMANENTLY RESETTLED. AN ESTIMATED 13,000 STILL REMAIN STRANDED IN EAST ASIA AT THIS TIME, HOWEVER, MOST OF THEM IN DEPLORABLE CONDITIONS IN REFUGEE CAMPS. WE EXPECT TO BE ABLE TO ACCEPT SEVERAL THOUSAND OF THESE, BUT TO ACCEPT ALL OF THEM WOULD SIGNIFICANTLY EXCEED THE FIGURE OF ABOUT 130,000 TO BE PERMANENTLY RESETTLED HERE. TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEM OF REFUGEES STILL STRANDED ABROAD AND TERMINATE THE MOVEMENT OF REFUGEES INTO THE U.S., WE
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 215494

HOPE THAT THIRD COUNTRIES SUCH AS GERMANY WILL EITHER ACCEPT THEM DIRECTLY OR ACCEPT MORE REFUGEES FROM THE U.S. SYSTEM, THUS ALLOWING US TO TAKE IN ADDITIONAL REFUGEES IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE AND STILL REMAIN UNDER THE 130,000 FIGURE.

3. FROM REPORTS OF PREVIOUS DISCUSSIONS IN REFS B AND C, WE UNDERSTAND MAJOR IMPEDIMENTS TO GERMAN ACCEPTANCE OF INDOCHINESE REFUGEES ARE FIRST BUREAUCRATIC TANGLE INVOLVED IN REQUIREMENT FOR APPROVAL BY LOCAL AUTHORITIES, AND SECOND, CRITERIA TO ACCEPT ONLY REFUGEES WITH RELATIVES IN FRG, THOSE WHO WORKED FOR FRG, AND PARTICULARLY TRAGIC CASES.

4. IN REGARD TO REQUIREMENT FOR LOCAL APPROVAL, WE HOPE THAT FRG WILL BE ABLE TO GET LAENDER TO BE BOTH LIBERAL AND EXPEDITIOUS, IN LINE WITH RECOMMENDATION LAHN SAID HE WOULD MAKE AS REPORTED PARA. 8 REF. B. REGARDING SECOND PROBLEM OF NARROW CRITERIA, WE HOPE FRG HAS ACCEPTED PRINCIPLE SUGGESTED BY CHARGE TO LAHN IN PARA. 9 REF. B THAT ALL REFUGEES REMAINING IN EAST ASIA SHOULD BE

CLASSIFIED AS PARTICULARLY TRAGIC CASES IN LIGHT OF SUFFERING THEY ARE GOING THROUGH IN REFUGEE CAMPS. KISSINGER

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